



# Vantage

## Rights & Social Justice

*Herlinda Chico, Program Vice President*



AAUW-CA's 2020 public policy priorities include achieving economic security for all women, supporting a strong system of high-quality public education, and guaranteeing equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse and inclusive society. To achieve these goals, it is important to understand the inequity that is currently in place.

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the City of Long Beach released the [Racial Equity and Reconciliation Initiative – Initial Report](#). The report details actions to address anti-Black racism, advance racial equity, and reconcile with the vision that race should not determine social and economic outcomes for those who live or work in Long Beach.

The goals and strategies of the initial report include actions related to government/infrastructure, public safety and policing, violence prevention, health equity and economic inclusion. The four goals, along with their outlined strategies include:

- End systemic racism in Long Beach, in all local government and partner agencies, through internal transformation.

- Design and invest in community safety and violence prevention.

- Redesign police approach to community safety.
- Improve health and wellness in the City by eliminating social and economic disparities in the communities most impacted by racism.

Following the AAUW business meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, the 11:00 am program will feature an outstanding panel of experts who will discuss racial equity in the City and throughout LBUSD. Long Beach Councilman Rex Richardson, who championed the



Framework of Reconciliation, will discuss how it will be implemented. Long Beach Unified School District Board Member Dr. Juan Benitez will discuss the challenges and solutions at our local schools. Long Beach Office of Equity Manager Katie Balderas will discuss racism through a health lens.

We hope you will join us for this important discussion.

### **AAUW Mission :**

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

### **AAUW Vision:**

Equity for all.

### **AAUW Values:**

Nonpartisan.

Fact-based.

Integrity.

Inclusion and Intersectionality.

### **AAUW Diversity Statement:**

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks an inclusive membership, workforce, leadership team and board of directors. There shall be no barriers to full participation on the basis of age, disability, gender, location, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

# From the Co-Presidents

by Stelet Kim & Jeane Relleve Caveness, Ph.D.

## Happy 100th birthday, Long Beach Branch!

Given all that is going on in our world today, it would be easy to forego celebration. But we have a lot to celebrate in addition to our branch's centennial: Let's hear it for an excellent special August presentation by Dr. Ginny Baxter on women's suffrage in the U.S.! How about a shout-out to Gerrie Schipske for highlighting the role of Long Beach citizens in the passage of the 19th Amendment? And looking forward: This September 2020 Vantage promotes our second-ever dynamic virtual branch meeting. Program VP Herlinda Chico offers a powerful program on the timely topic of the City of Long Beach's Framework for Reconciliation. The new Diversity & Inclusion Committee seeks members. Tech Trek Chair Valerie Armstrong reports on special presentations to the five girls who would have attended camp this summer.

Who could have predicted a year ago that the COVID-19 pandemic would arise, causing some of us to start using "Zoom" as a verb and that we would hunger deeply for face-to-face interaction despite the internet connectedness? Or that nationwide, then worldwide, protests against police brutality and anti-Black violence would ripple throughout our lives and urge us to confront injustice as never before on a personal and structural basis? Or that many of us are just now beginning to examine more deeply the intersection of race, class and gender? We do have a lot to celebrate, but dear sisters and brothers, we also have a lot of work to do. Let's be courageous, vulnerable, and compassionate with ourselves and with each other as we venture forward, together, towards equity for all.

### Calendar Dates to Note

Sat. Sept. 12 Branch meeting  
Mon. Sept. 21 Exec. Committee meeting  
Sat. Oct. 3 Branch meeting  
November 7 Branch meeting

### Contact Us

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**For Vantage info: Rebecca Low**  
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## WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE AROUND THE WORLD

### 1850-1879

1869: Britain grants unmarried women who are householders the right to vote in local elections.

### 1880-1899

1893: New Zealand grants equal voting rights to women.  
1894: The United Kingdom expands women's voting rights to married women in local, but not national, elections.  
1895: South Australian women gain voting rights.

### 1910-1919

1915: Denmark and Iceland  
1917: When the Russian czar is toppled, the provisional government grants universal suffrage with equality for women; later, the new Soviet Russian constitution includes full suffrage to women.  
1918: The United Kingdom gives a full vote to some women—over 30, with property qualifications or a UK university degree—and to all men age 21 and older.  
1918: Canada gives women the vote in most provinces by federal law. Quebec is not included. Native women were not included.  
1918: Germany, Austria, Latvia, Poland, Estonia, the Russian Federation  
1918: The Azerbaijan Democratic Republic (1918-1920) grants civil and political rights (including suffrage) to all citizens regardless of ethnic origin, religion, class, profession, or sex.  
1919: Belarus, Luxembourg, and Ukraine.

### 1920-1929

1920: On August 26, a constitutional amendment is adopted when the state of Tennessee ratifies it, granting women full suffrage in all U.S. states.  
1920-29: Albania, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Armenia, Lithuania, Burma, Mongolia, Saint Lucia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Guyana, Ecuador  
1929: Women are found to be "persons" in Canada and are, therefore, able to become members of the Senate.

### 1930-1939

1930: White women are granted suffrage in South Africa.  
1930-39: Turkey, Uruguay, Thailand, Maldives, Cuba & Brazil, Myanmar (Burma), the Philippines, Uzbekistan, El Salvador.

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### 1940-1949

Dominican Republic, Bulgaria, France, Jamaica, Croatia, Indonesia, Italy, Hungary, Japan (with restrictions), Yugoslavia, Senegal, Ireland, Palestine, Kenya, Liberia, Cameroon, Korea, Guatemala, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Vietnam, Bulgaria, Malta, Nepal, Pakistan, Singapore, Argentina, Israel, Iraq, Korea, Niger, Surinam, China, Costa Rica, the Syrian Arab Republic, India

### 1950-1960+

1950: Haiti and Barbados  
1950: Canada grants full suffrage, extending the right to vote to some women (and men) previously not included, although still excluding Native women.  
1952: The Convention on the Political Rights of Women is enacted by the United Nations, calling for the women's right to vote and to stand for elections.  
1953-60: Mexico, Bhutan, Ghana, Colombia, Belize, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Peru, Honduras, Nicaragua, Egypt, Somalia, Comoros, Mauritius, Mali, and Benin, Pakistan, Malaysia, Zimbabwe  
1960: Canadian women win full rights to stand for election, including Native women.

1971: Switzerland adopts women's suffrage, and the United States lowers the voting age for both men and women to 18 via a constitutional amendment.

1980: Iran gives women the right to vote.

1984: In South Africa, voting rights are extended to women of mixed ethnicity and Indians.

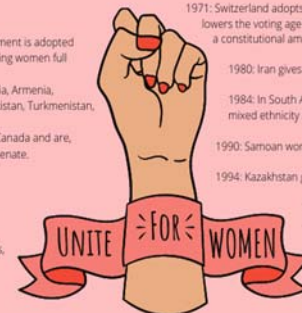
1990: Samoan women gain full suffrage.

1994: Kazakhstan grants women full suffrage.

1994: Black women gain full suffrage in South Africa.

2000-2005: The Kuwaiti Parliament grants women of Kuwait full suffrage.

\*Adapted from International Women's Suffrage Timeline: 1851-Present, thoughtco.com



# AAUW Long Beach 2020-2021 Fund Campaign

The Fund committee is planning a non-event as a fundraiser this year. Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, plans for in-person meetings have been put on hold. Usually, envelopes are placed on the tables at a branch meeting in the fall and members make a tax-deductible donation to the Fund of their choice, or to the Greatest Needs Fund. This year, members will have the opportunity to participate in a non-event to raise funds. Just think! You won't have to wear those uncomfortable shoes or wonder what to wear. Just relax in the comfort of your home and write a check. No face masks or social distancing required.



**The AAUW Fund** is what supports all the wonderful programs of AAUW and, of course, it depends on donations from members to support the programs. When you donate to the Greatest Needs Fund, AAUW staff determine where the money is most needed. There are Fellowships and Grants under the Educational Foundation which fund women scholars from the United States and throughout the world. The funding is provided by endowments from which only the interest is used. This means the endowments will survive in perpetuity. All other AAUW projects and programs rely on donations. The Legal Advocacy Fund supports legal cases

involving job discrimination including pay and advancement opportunities. The Public Policy fund supports advocacy for issues such as reproductive choice, pay equity and economic security for all women.

If you have no preference, simply write your check to AAUW, or to the Greatest Needs Fund. For any other programs or projects, simply note it on the memo line of your check. To read more about the many AAUW programs and projects, go to [AAUW.org](http://AAUW.org) and [AAUW-CA.org](http://AAUW-CA.org).

~ Sharon Westafer and Barbara Vangsness

**Due to concerns about meeting during COVID, the AAUW Author's Luncheon Committee has decided to postpone our October 24 event to April, 2021. Old Ranch Country Club has given us several possible dates. We are going to avoid April 17 because there is an AAUW CA meeting.**

**If you know of any fundraisers that have already picked an April date, please let Ginny Baxter know ASAP. Our author, Bonnie Macbird will have a new book out in March.**

## AAUW Long Beach STEM Planning!

As we start to organize the STEM Conference Committee, we are looking for volunteers for the positions of Food Co-Chair and the Wrap Up Supper Coordinator.

The **Food Co-Chair** would work with Linda Patten, Food Chair, to coordinate the snack bags for the attendees, including snack bag assembly and scheduling, Costco shopping, and transport.

The **Wrap Up Supper Coordinator** works with the Food Chair and Co-Chair to prepare and arrange the post-Conference supper for speakers and volunteers.

If you are interested in volunteering for either of these positions, please reach out to Linda Patten ([lindapatten@icloud.com](mailto:lindapatten@icloud.com)). Linda can also provide you with the position descriptions for more details about responsibilities. Thanks!





# Tech Trek Update

by Valerie Armstrong

Five students who were selected for Tech Trek 2020 received Dell Chromebooks courtesy of AAUW Long Beach. Two students from Powell Academy and three students from Muir Academy received the laptops in August. Due to COVID 19, the students were unable to attend camp this summer. The Board approved the purchase of laptops for the students to honor their achievements and to mitigate the disappointment of camp cancellation. In addition to the Chromebooks, the students received Tech Trek T-shirts.

Several Tech Trek team members collaborated in this endeavor. Anne Supple came up with the idea to purchase laptops for the students and assisted with arranging delivery appointments. Linda Patten researched the best options for laptops and ordered Dell Chromebooks, based on teachers' recommendations. Sharon Westafer provided Tech Trek T-shirts for the students. Valerie Armstrong delivered the laptops and T-shirts to the students' homes.

The Tech Trek committee has not received information on the status of camp for 2021. We will provide updates when we receive them from the AAUW California State Coordinators.



## Branch Business

**New Members: Did You Know?** All branch members may: 1) observe meetings of the executive committee and board of directors (dates are posted on the branch website and in the Vantage newsletter), and 2) submit proposals for discussion and/or action at the meetings, via the Co-Presidents. (Reference: Policies and Procedures, Section 13, Sub-Sections "e" and "f") For information and submission deadline, contact Stelet Kim or Jeane Relleve Caveness

The date for the next **Executive Committee meeting** is: Mon. September 21 at 6:15pm via Zoom. Members who wish to observe the meeting should contact the Co-Presidents, at [aauwlongbeach@gmail.com](mailto:aauwlongbeach@gmail.com) or by using their emails in the Yearbook, by September 18 in order to receive the Zoom meeting invitation.

### **New Diversity & Inclusion Committee Approved**

At its July meeting, the Board of Directors approved the new Diversity & Inclusion Committee. The committee shall work to create an open, inclusive, and welcoming branch environment. The committee shall examine branch progress in the areas of recruitment, retention, and programming as it relates to diversity. The committee shall develop and implement a Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The Committee will be led by a Diversity and Inclusion Chair and will be open to interested branch members who will be recruited at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Co-Presidents Stelet Kim and Jeane Relleve Caveness hope to see a broad cross-section of members volunteer to serve on this committee. Different perspectives are needed to consider difficult questions and to make far-sighted, even transformative, plans. Dr. Mary Ann Takemoto is the new Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair.

## Who is Telling This Story?

At 98 years old, Betty Soskin is the oldest National Park Ranger serving the United States today. A Black woman raised in Oakland, California, she is a tour guide and consultant for the Rosie the Riveter/World War II Home Front National Historical Park in Richmond, just north of Oakland. She tells visitors stories about the "Rosies," women who joined the non-domestic workforce to support the war effort -- but her stories are not the ones we all know. Our widely-accepted history is not entirely untrue, she says. "It's just that it is incomplete." In 1930, 44% of Black women were employed outside of the home, more than twice the 21% of White women who did the same (US Census Bureau).

*"What gets remembered is determined by who is in the room doing the remembering."* Too few storytellers tell of Black women's role in the suffrage movement in the 19th and 20th centuries. Black men and White women were at the helm of organizations excluding Black women. The National American Woman Suffrage Association prevented Black women from attending their conventions and Black women often had to march separately from white women in suffrage parades. Black reformers like Mary Church Terrell, Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, and Harriet Tubman addressed how both their race and their sex affected their rights and opportunities.



*Nine Afro-American women posed, standing, full length, with Nannie Burroughs holding banner reading, "Banner State Woman's National Baptist Convention" (1905-1915).*

Library of Congress, Lot 12572, <https://www.loc.gov/item/93505051/>

References:

<https://www.nps.gov/articles/black-women-and-the-fight-for-voting-rights.htm>

<https://qz.com/1351100/the-rosie-the-riveter-myth-ignores-that-black-women-already-worked-outside-the-home/>

# Branch Business

## ACTIONS TAKEN AT JULY 13, 2020 BOARD MEETING

Under the Co-Presidents' Report, Stelet Kim reported:

An electronic vote of seven of eight Executive Committee members approved these appointments:

Appointed Officer

Arnedra Jordan, Public Policy Director

Administrative Chairs

- Darlene Daclan, Administrative Assistant
- Charlotte Joseph, Meetings Coordinator
- Rebecca Low, Newsletter Editor

### New Business

A. **Motion to Authorized Signer Change by Patricia Ferrer:** I move that the following be authorized signers on behalf of American Association of University Women (AAUW-Long Beach) for the fiscal year 2020-2021 for Bank of America accounts ending -3633, -7308, and -8544 and for Wells Fargo account ending in -8199 (investment fund), co-President, Jeane Caveness, and Treasurer, Patricia Ferrer. The current signer, Secretary, Linda Westman, will stay on the Bank of America accounts. The current signers shall be removed, Past President, Denise Montoya and Past Treasurer, Deloris Mayuga. Seconded by Linda Westman. Without objection the motion passed with unanimous consent.

**Motion to approve Credit Card Guarantor by Patricia Ferrer:** I move that the Board approve the Treasurer, Patricia A. Ferrer, as the Business Credit Card guarantor for a credit card for the Branch at the Bank of America. Seconded by Mary Lamo. Without objection the motion passed with unanimous consent.

*Co-President Jeane Caveness motioned, without objection, that all four fundraising motions, New Business Items B through E, be approved because these requests for approval of fundraising are routine matters every year. There was no objection, and the motion was approved by unanimous consent.*

B. **Motion to approve fund raising for 2020-2021 Tech Trek by Valerie Armstrong:** By the direction of the Tech Trek Committee/Special Project, I move that the Board approve the Tech Trek committee's proposed fundraising amount of \$5,000, and that fundraising occur during January 2021. (No second needed.)

C. **Motion to approve fundraising for 2020-2021 for STEM Conference by Mary Lamo:** I move that the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual STEM Career Conference be approved to fundraise \$10,000 for support of the Conference to be held Friday, February 26, 2021. (No second needed.)

D. **Motion to approve fundraising for 2020-2021 for Work Smart by Sharon Westafer:** I move that fundraising for two Work Smart workshops be held during the 2020-2021 branch year. The total anticipated funds for two workshops are \$1,600. (No second needed.)

E. **Motion to approve fundraising for 2020-2021 for AAUW Fund by Barbara Vangness:** By the direction of the AAUW Fund Committee, I move that permission be granted for the Committee to pursue a fundraising goal of \$7800 (seven thousand eight hundred dollars) for 2020-2021. (No second needed.)

## And more!

**F. Motion to approve ad hoc Zoom Committee & Zoom Manager Job Description by Stelet**

**Kim:** I move that the Branch:

Establish an ad hoc Zoom Committee for 2020-2021 for the purpose of supporting the Branch to convene virtually. Responsibilities of the committee will include:

- a. training members to use Zoom,
  - b. providing technical support prior to and during virtual meetings, and
  - c. testing/researching new features and services related to virtual meetings.
- and

Create an ad hoc Zoom Manager position for the 2020-2021 with duties outlined in the Zoom Manager job description as presented.

Seconded by Jeane Caveness. Motion passed.

**G. Motion to approve one-year Zoom subscription by Tobi Balma:**

I move that the Long Beach AAUW Branch convert from a monthly subscription to purchasing a one year Zoom Pro subscription using the Long Beach Branch Credit Card on or before July 15, 2020, for the 30% off special annual offer, at a cost not to exceed \$149.90. Seconded by Stelet Kim. Motion passed.

**H. Motion to approve Diversity & Inclusion Committee by Mary Ann Takemoto:** I move to create a Diversity and Inclusion Committee by amending Policies and Procedures, Section 17, Duties and Composition of Standing Committees by adding new subsection "i", Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall work to create an open, inclusive, and welcoming branch environment. The committee shall examine branch progress in the areas of recruitment, retention, and programming as it relates to diversity. The committee shall develop and implement a Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The Committee will be led by a Diversity and Inclusion Chair and will be open to interested branch members who will be recruited at the beginning of the fiscal year.

Seconded by Linda Westman. Motion passed.

**I. Motion to approve Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair by Mary Ann Takemoto:**

I move to create a Diversity and Inclusion Chair by amending Policies and Procedures, Section 16, Duties of Administrative Chairs by adding new subsection "f".

Diversity and Inclusion Chair shall:

- i. Provide leadership for the branch in the areas of diversity and inclusion;
- ii. Chair the Diversity and Inclusion Committee;
- iii. Work with branch President, Board, and Diversity and Inclusion Committee to create and implement a Diversity and Inclusion Plan;
- iv. Lead efforts to monitor the diversity in membership and recruitment;
- v. Work with Public Policy and Program Committee to align branch activities with state and national AAUW priorities.

Seconded by Linda Westman. Motion passed.

**J. Motion to approve August program by Herlinda Chico:** By the direction of the Program committee, I move that: The Branch holds a special program celebrating the Women's Suffrage Centennial with a presentation by Dr. Ginny Baxter on Saturday, August 1, 2020 from 10:00-11:30am.

Motion passed 10-0-1





# Suffragists of Early Long Beach

by Gerrie Schipske

As the Centennial of the enactment of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment approached, I came across the 1923 book written by suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt, titled: “Woman Suffrage and Politics.” I was struck by Catt’s explanation that even after only three years from its enactment, many people had no idea how it all started. More precisely, she wrote: “When suffrage was in everybody’s mouth and on the front page of every newspaper, few paused to ask how it all started. It was just there, like breakfast.”

If that was the case in 1923, it is even much more so now.

I am native of Long Beach and have acquired a considerable appreciation of this city as well as the people who made its history. Because most that is written about the suffrage movement is focused on national and state actions, I thought it would be interesting and important to find out what took place locally in Long Beach.

Like many, I was unaware of the tremendous, continuous work that was undertaken to ensure the passage and enactment of voting rights for women. Until I did the research for my latest book, “Suffragists of Early Long Beach,” I did not fully understand the extent of the “agitating, organizing, education, pleading and persuading” that took place right here in Long Beach.

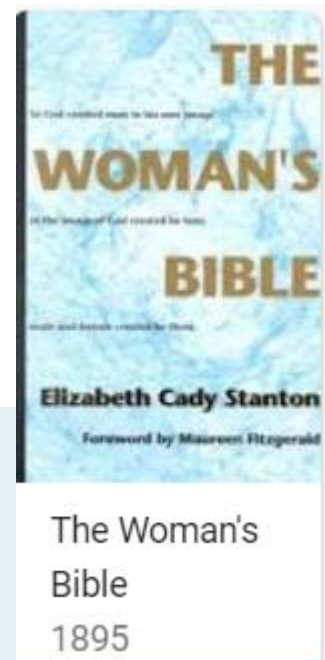
The book, which is available on [www.soelb.com](http://www.soelb.com), provides an overview of how the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment was enacted and how Long Beach suffragists began advocating for the right to vote starting as early as 1894. That is when Elon C. Denio, the first licensed attorney in Long Beach, wrote the “Suffrage Plank” for the Republican Convention.

“Suffragists of Early Long Beach” also includes twelve “Portraits of Courage” highlighting the efforts of Long Beach suffragists: Adelaide Tichenor, Martha Almy, Fanny Bixby, Cora Morgan, Nina Cuthbert, Elon Denio, Mabel Taylor, Charles Windham, Nelly Hall Root, Lillian Spannagel, Marie Brehm, and Myra Hunt Kingman Miller.

Did you know that: Martha Almy worked with Elizabeth Cady Stanton on writing “The Woman’s Bible?” Former Long Beach High School basketball hero, Mabel Taylor, was the first woman to run for office in Long Beach in 1911? Myra Hunt Kingman Miller established the College Women’s Club of Long Beach in 1911, which later became the Long Beach American Association of University Women? The Women’s City Club of Long Beach co-wrote “Enfranchised Cookery” which offered recipes and a way to raise funds for the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National American Woman Suffrage Association?

“Suffragists of Early Long Beach” also includes a listing of local addresses of where the suffragists lived and met in Long Beach. There is also a quiz to test your knowledge of suffrage history and a discussion guide that book groups will find helpful.

You can buy your copy of “Suffragists of Early Long Beach” today by going on line at: [www.soelb.com](http://www.soelb.com). Once you make your purchase, please email me at: [schipske@gmail.com](mailto:schipske@gmail.com) and I will email you a copy of the “Enfranchised Cookery” pamphlet, as a thank you.





# Great Decisions & more!

by Shelley Arnold

Keeping our AAUW branch vital during these pandemic times can be a challenge. But now that members have been trained in the ways of “Zoom”, we are happily joining online meetings, online happy hours, and online book clubs.

The evening Great Decisions group has formed an online Proposition Chat Group. Members are using [ballotpedia.org](http://ballotpedia.org) and other online resources to get information about the California Propositions that will be on the November ballot. The propositions are divided up into five sections for five meetings:

Race and Civil Rights (Props 16, 17, & 18)	Housing and Prop 13 (Props 15, 19, & 21)
How Tough on Crime (Props 25 & 20)	Labor vs. Management (Props 22 & 23)
Coming Back for More (Props 24 & 14)	

We meet every two weeks to share our findings and discuss the “rightness” of our positions. We don’t all agree, but we come away fully understanding the propositions. Plus, we all get to know each other a little bit better. If your Great Decisions Group, or a group of your AAUW friends, want to start their own Proposition Chat Group contact Shelley Arnold at [shelleyarnold1@aol.com](mailto:shelleyarnold1@aol.com).

# Public Policy

by Arnedra Jordan

Meetings are held virtually the third Tuesday of each month at 12:00 p.m. Our first meeting of the 2020/2021 AAUW year will be held on September 15, 2020. For the Zoom meeting invitation ....

Contact: Arnedra Jordan, Public Policy Director (310)722-6594 or [ajordan6@my.keller.edu](mailto:ajordan6@my.keller.edu)

## What’s AAUW Public Policy All About?

Since AAUW’s founding in 1881, our advocates have taken positions on the fundamental issues of the day – educational, social, economic, and political. Our positions emanate from our Mission, Vision and Values:

Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy

Vision: Equity for all

Values: Nonpartisan. Fact based. Integrity. Inclusion. Intersectionality.

Our positions are rooted in our member-approved Public Policy Priorities at both national and state levels. The AAUW California Public Policy Priorities for 2019-2021 were approved this spring, and can be found at [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org). The AAUW CA Public Policy Committee meets early in each legislative session to review bills and determine those on which to take action. In Washington, AAUW staff and volunteer advocates communicate with both Congress and the administration. In California, we employ a part-time lobbyist to represent AAUW CA in the California Legislature.

Economic Security is a critical issue for women of all ages, a foundational aspect of everyday life, and is particularly important to women’s ability to support themselves and their families. Many continue to struggle with economic insecurity, wage discrimination, and employment benefits.

Real change in federal and state policy, however, will only come about when our elected officials hear from voters, like us! It is so important that branch members be up to date on AAUW positions on federal and state legislation consistent with AAUW’s mission, and contact elected officials to share our positions. And we must hold those we have elected accountable as they vote on issues affecting women and girls.

Become involved with your branch’s Public Policy Committee. You can download and print a copy of the Public Policy Priorities from [aauw-ca/category/publicpolicy](http://aauw-ca/category/publicpolicy). Become an activist, by signing up on the national website [aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist](http://aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist). This will connect you with both state and national calls to action. Start now! It’s not too soon to begin educating yourself about the issues in the important 2020 elections!

# Membership Counts

FYI FROM AAUW CA BOARD (August 2020)

- Over 20 virtual webinars, related to four AAUW CA priorities, will be held through June 2021.  
Register here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/2020-2021-webinars/>.
- The 2020-2021 Fund luncheons will be held virtually on October 10th and October 24th.  
Sponsored by CA Board, these events honor the recipients of Fellowship and Grant recipients.
- CA Board challenges each branch to increase the number of its Legacy Circle members (<https://www.aauw.org/resources/member/support-aauw/leave-a-legacy/>) by the end of Nov.  
The winning branch will be invited to a special virtual celebration with AAUW CA President Dianne Owens.
- Members should update their personal information in the AAUW national and CA database to keep records current. Of course, our branch needs to know too!!

Check out the new section on our branch website where we will list upcoming events of interest in our community that align with our mission! <https://longbeach-ca.aauw.net/news/events/>

# Summer Leadership Retreat

**If you were magically gifted unlimited time, funding, and resources, how would you reimagine the AAUW Long Beach Branch?**

On July 18, 2020, our elected and appointed officers, administrative chairs, and special guests were asked this question at our first-ever virtual leadership retreat! We utilized breakout rooms to facilitate small group discussions and then came together in our group of 31 to share our ideas, from practical to imaginative to aspirational.

Here is a sampling of responses:

**Increase advertising & marketing**

**Improve diversity of membership**

**Have paid staff**

**Partner with more local organizations**

**Create a mentorship program between members and recent college grads**

**Provide full scholarships to colleges & universities**

**Offer free or low-cost membership**

**Create a YouTube channel or host a podcast**

With minds full of fresh ideas, we then tackled the branch Strategic Plan for 2020-2021. The plan will be completed by volunteers, hopefully adopted by the Board in September, and presented to the branch shortly thereafter.

The leadership group also reviewed the AAUW Five-Star National Recognition Program criteria. These criteria will be incorporated into our strategic plan with the intention of receiving Five-Star recognition for our branch this year!

If you would like to be part of the strategic planning process, please contact Stelet Kim.  
If you would like to be involved with the Five-Star program, please contact Jeane Caveness.

# BRANCH INTEREST GROUPS

**Joining an AAUW members-only interest group (or many) is a great way to get to know other members on a more personal level. Make friends while participating in fun, informative and educational activities. To start a new interest group, submit a description to the President and it will be passed along to the Interest Group Coordinator, for help with implementation.**

*Reminder: All interest group participants MUST be AAUW Long Beach members. Guests may attend a branch meeting or an interest group a maximum of three times before they are required to join AAUW.*

*Interest groups are for the benefit of AAUW members. (See COVID-19 statement from AAUW CA on page 12)*



**Book Chat Plus Group** members present the most interesting book they have recently read, film they have seen or the most exciting travel experience they have had. If time allows, all three! Light refreshments are served along with the intriguing conversation. We meet the 1st Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Contact **Betty Thompson**, 562 - 430 - 8438 or [bettythom@aol.com](mailto:bettythom@aol.com)



**Cultural Adventures Group** plans trips to museums and other points of interest. It is usually a mid-week tour & lunch scheduled several times a year. Join a group that enjoys checking out museums and other cultural interests—maybe by Zoom for now. Contact **JoAnn Kuroda** at 562-429-6923 or email [sojoinlb@aol.com](mailto:sojoinlb@aol.com)



**Great Decisions Group** meets weekly to discuss, share opinions and ideas on a critical global issue. To all Group Members: Great Decisions books will be available starting in December for 2021.

Planning to participate? please contact your group leader or **Rita Powell** at 562 685 2096.



**International Cuisine Group** meets and dines at restaurants of different ethnicity in the local area. It is usually scheduled every few months on a Wednesday within an easy drive of LB. Car pooling is an option. When we get back to normal dining...Come join a group who enjoys unique flavors of the world. Contact **Fay Denny** at 714-894-0416 or email [faydenny@yahoo.com](mailto:faydenny@yahoo.com).



**Literary Ladies Group** meets to discuss and compare thoughts on a selected book, fiction or non-fiction.

The group comes together to hear thoughts and insights from others in the group. Each member takes a turn recommending and leading the group. The book selection and meetings will resume at a later date.

Contact **Sharon Westafer**, 562-493-4749 if interested—and keep reading even if we are alone.



**Public Policy** meetings, explore, discuss and support the active legislative issues of AAUW, which underscore our mission of promoting equity and education for all women and girls. The group passes on knowledge and information to all branch members and encourage them to become involved with AAUW issues. For the next meeting by Zoom, see info on page 9 - Contact **Arnedra Jordan**



**Residential Rentals Discussion Group** meets the 3rd Wednesday of odd months year round from 10:00-11:30 am. We met by way of ZOOM for our July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and it worked very well. We are going to do that again for September 16<sup>th</sup> and November 18<sup>th</sup>. Instructions will be sent out before the meeting. Want to join us? (contact information below) Anyone with an interest (owner or not) in residential rental is welcome. We cover current landlord/tenant topics, share experiences and work to keep current in the housing industry all in an informal setting. Contact Co-Chairs **Ellen Mathis** — [epmathis@verizon.net](mailto:epmathis@verizon.net) Joan Gustafson — [jwg221@aol.com](mailto:jwg221@aol.com)



**Movie Mavens** enjoy each others company at a movie and then chat about it over coffee afterwards.

We are looking for a new leader for this group... **On hold for now.**



**Under the Umbrella Book Group** - The "new" Book Club will meet the 3rd Saturday of the month at 2:00 PM - Zoom meetings pending. We will read a variety of genres. We have room for more members! Ask Beverly about the titles to be read. Contact **Beverly Krivokapich** 562-596-1826 or email [bevkrivo@yahoo.com](mailto:bevkrivo@yahoo.com)



Join and enjoy the Social Hour meetings....  
<https://www.meetup.com/American-Association-of-University-Women-Long-Beach/>

We hope you will join us for this monthly branch meeting. Please RSVP using this link

<https://forms.gle/yNrUaH3oaE8a6HPc6>.

If you are unable to register through the link please email Reservations Chair Lois Ledger at [loisledger5@gmail.com](mailto:loisledger5@gmail.com) or call her at 562-432-5822.

## AAUW BRANCH MEETING

Saturday, September 12, 2020

9:30 a.m. Digital Mingle  
10:00 a.m. Business Meeting  
11:00 a.m. Program

**Place: Your Home via Zoom**

Everyone will receive an email to clarify the meeting details. It will include the Zoom link, and other connection information.

### Important COVID-19 Reminder

AAUW CA does not sanction in-person meetings at this time nor for the foreseeable future. AAUW's guidance is in adherence with California mandates and in the best interests of all our members. Let's remain safe today and enjoy gatherings in the future!



### AAUW Long Beach Branch

Send address changes for AAUW Vantage  
to P O Box 15023,  
Long Beach, CA 90815

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

